

d in every age, the priest has been hostile to liberty. He is vays in alliance with the despot, abetting his abuses in return

- protection to his own. It is easier to acquire them, and to ect this, they have perverted the best religion ever preached man into mystery and jargon, unintelligible to all mankind, d therefore the safer engine for their purposes. With the yyers it is a new thing. They have, in the mother country, zn generally the primest supporters of the free principles of

iir constitution. But there, too, they have changed. I :ribe much of this to the substitution of Blackstone for

my ird Coke, as an elementary work. In truth, Blackstone and ime have made tories of all England, and are making tories those young Americans whose native feelings of independence not place them above the wily sophistries of a Hume or a ickstone. These two books, but especially the former, have ne more towards the suppression of the liberties of man than

the millions of men in the armies of Bonaparte and the llions of human lives with the sacrifice of which he will stand ided before the judgment seat of his Maker. I fear nothing

- our liberty from the assaults of force; but I have seen and t much, and fear more from English books, English preju- :es, English manners, and the apes, the dupes, and designs long our professional crafts. (To H. G. Spafford, 1814. C.

•, 334-)

METEMPSYCHOSIS.—It is not for me to pronounce on the pothesis you present of a transmigration of souls from one dy to another in certain cases. The laws of nature have with-Id from us the means of physical knowledge of the country spirits, and revelation has, for reasons unknown to us, chosen leave us in the dark as we were. When I was young I was id of the speculations which seemed to promise some insight o that hidden country, but observing at length that they left : in the same ignorance which they found me, I have for my years ceased to read or think concerning them, and have >osed my head on that pillow of ignorance which a benevolent eator has made so- soft for us, knowing how much we should forced to use it. I have thought it better by nourishing the